

Proposal Title	Rapid Survey: Individuals of Haitian Descent in the Dominican Republic
Applicant	Open Society Justice Initiative
Reserve Fund	Latin America & Caribbean Reserve
Amount Requested	\$200,000
Detail on Amount Requested (Optional)	The current quotation for the proposed research is approximately \$165,000 plus \$35,000 for local administration of the project, for a total request of \$200,000.
Background (Optional)	<p>In September 2013, the Dominican Constitutional Tribunal (CT) issued a ruling on the legal status of Dominicans of Haitian descent which retroactively changed the meaning of the Dominican constitution, such that it conveys citizenship on the basis of parents' immigration status, instead of the basis of birth in the territory of the DR. As it is currently implemented, the ruling denationalizes thousands – if not hundreds of thousands – of Dominicans born to migrant parents since 1929. The majority of those affected are Dominicans of Haitian descent.</p> <p>According to the National Survey of Migrants, in 2012, carried out by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) 209,912 first-generation Dominicans of Haitian descent reside in the DR.^[1] We believe this number to be a significant underestimate of the total number of Dominicans of Haitian descent in the Dominican Republic, given that Haitian immigration to the Dominican Republic began over a century ago, and many migrants remained in the DR as did their descendants. However, the 2012 study is the only attempt to count even a portion of the Dominicans of Haitian descent residing in the Dominican Republic.</p> <p>The DR government passed two plans in response to the CT ruling: one providing for regularization of migrants, one for those born in the country to reestablish their citizenship. The government now states that 55,000 thousand individuals born in the Dominican Republic who had Dominican citizenship documents invalidated by the Constitutional Tribunal's ruling will now be recognized as citizens, and that nearly 9,000 individuals born in the Dominican Republic who were registered in the 'book of foreigners' may access naturalization following a period of two years. The government's current position is that no one born in the DR will be deported, and that everyone whose citizenship was jeopardized is already part of these two groups and thus on a path to citizenship.</p>
Risks (Optional)	There is some possibility, although not a likelihood, that the

^{[1][1]} A joint survey of the National Office for Statistics, UNFPA and the European Union found 209,912 descendants of Haitians living in the Dominican Republic. ONE-UNFPA-UE 2013 available at <http://countryoffice.unfpa.org/dominicanrepublic/drive/ProcesoMetodologicoENingles.pdf>.

	<p>government will entirely reject the results of the survey ; however, by using a rigorous methodology, and taking into account the government's sensitivity to international pressure on these issues, we believe that even in the case of this extreme reaction the survey will be valuable. A questioning of survey results will in fact provide an opening for OSF to offer to cooperate with the government on a further survey.</p>
<p>Unforeseen Need (250 words)</p>	<p>Though long apparent, the need for accurate and independent information on the population of Dominicans with Haitian ancestry is newly pressing, given heightened public controversy in recent months over contested government policies affecting Haitian migrants and Dominicans of Haitian ancestry. The 2012 survey undertaken by UNFPA and the Dominican government does NOT count this population, but only individuals born in the DR to parents who immigrated from Haiti (leaving out all those from subsequent generations who are equally affected by the CT ruling).</p> <p>Specifically, we must establish whether the Dominican government is correct in stating that all individuals affected by the CT ruling (which includes virtually all individuals of Haitian ancestry, including second, third, and later generations born in the DR) have indeed taken advantage of the processes put in place to obtain citizenship and will therefore not be left stateless or deported.</p> <p>Beginning to answer this question, at least in one or more provinces, will provide essential context for George Soros's planned meeting with Dominican President Medina in September and for OSF's advocacy generally. If, as we believe, many individuals remain without legal status or a path to citizenship, this will be critical evidence for advocacy with the Dominican government and a number of international actors who have been inclined thus far to give the DR the benefit of the doubt. Assistance with a further survey, either in additional provinces or nationwide, could be something that George Soros offers to President Medina in September.</p>
<p>Activities Proposed (500 words)</p>	<p>The American Institutes for Research (based in Washington) will work with the <u>Observatorio de Migrantes del Caribe (OBMICA, based in Santo Domingo)</u> to enumerate the population of Dominicans of Haitian descent in the province of Santo Domingo between mid-August and mid-September 2015.</p> <p>Santo Domingo has been chosen because it has both a rural and an urban population. In contrast to the 2012 National Survey of Migrants, this enumeration will focus on multiple generations of descendants of immigrants and the extent to which they possess state-issued documentation of Dominican identity and citizenship. The count will be carried out by enumerators recruited from the community itself. Each enumerator is estimated to speak with approximately 8 households per day. Although there is a great deal of information that we would like to have, the survey will be restricted to approximately 10 questions to make possible a survey of all relevant households in the time available. Data collection is to</p>

	<p>be complete by mid-September and data analysis should take one week.</p> <p>The present proposal focuses on only one province due to the urgency in obtaining results prior to a Soros-Medina meeting. As well as inevitably taking substantially longer, a national level survey would be very difficult to carry out without support from the Dominican government, given that it would be sure to attract the notice of government officials.</p> <p>AIR will develop the necessary data collection materials, training materials and procedures, including data collection instruments and instructions for their use in the field. AIR will work with OBMICA to select places to test procedures, and will evaluate training procedures, check-out and check-in procedures, and (if needed) access to possible centralized data collection points, and develop back-up contingency plans. AIR will hold a debriefing with enumerators to identify any materials or procedures that should be revised prior to full implementation being carried out.</p> <p>AIR and OBMICA will review data as it is collected to note problems and formulate corrections to survey forms and practices as needed. When the data collection is complete, projected to be in mid-September, AIR will analyze the data collected. The analysis will provide for any variables necessary for standard error estimation and will include, but not be limited to, estimates of total population, basic characteristics of this population and its documentation status.</p> <p>AIR will draft and submit a formal report on the results, including a thorough explanation of the data analysis methodology utilized and an explanation of the analytical results.</p>
Summary for Board Reports (100 words)	<p>This request is necessary to counter the Dominican government's fact-free insistence that it has solved the problem of individuals left stateless or in limbo by the Dominican Constitutional Court's decision of 2013. This proposal focuses on establishing the total number of individuals in the DR with Haitian ancestry and whether they have documentation of their citizenship.</p>
Collaborating Programs within OSF and essential partners or grantees	<p>Open Society Justice Initiative International Migration Initiative <u>American Institutes for Research (AIR)</u> Founded in 1946, AIR (www.AIR.org) is a not-for-profit corporation engaged in independent applied research, evaluation, and technical implementation in the behavioral and social sciences. AIR has worked with public and private organizations in the United States and around the world. AIR has more than 1,500 employees and had more than \$300 million in annual revenue from grants and contracts in 2013.</p> <p>OBMICA was founded in 2009 as a think tank working on migration issues that affect the Dominican Republic from a gender and rights based perspective. Initially conceived as a joint initiative between FLACSO-RD and CIES UNIBE entitled Migrant Observatory of the</p>

	Caribbean, today OBMICA enjoys its own legal status, registered under the name Center for Immigration Observation and Social Development in the Caribbean. In 2013, ongoing projects include: a binational project of applied research on migration and the environment; a research project applied to the documentation of immigrants / descendants in the bateyes from a gender perspective; and a project on female labor migration and RD.
Contributions expected from Collaborating Programs (250 words)	<p>The Justice Initiative has been working on the problem of discrimination in access to Dominican citizenship since 2008 and has supported and participated in national and international litigation related to citizenship rights in the Dominican Republic. In line with work it has done since the Constitutional Tribunal's controversial decision in 2013, the Justice Initiative will oversee management of paralegal projects funded by this proposal, and in particular will offer technical assistance on gathering and analysing data on access to citizenship, as reflected in paralegal case files.</p> <p>IMI is primarily concerned with the situation of Haitian immigrants in the DR. While legally and socially distinct from Dominicans of Haitian ancestry, this group shares the problems of Dominicans of Haitian descent in being discriminated against, vulnerable to mob violence, and scapegoated as causing social and economic harm to the DR. The DR government has over the years pursued a deliberate policy of conjoining the two groups. Thus, while this proposal deals with a survey of Dominicans of Haitian descent, IMI will follow progress of the survey closely and use the experience and knowledge gained through these activities in planning and implementing additional work focused on Haitian migrants. FOKAL will collaborate on future reserve fund requests that deal with activities in Haiti.</p>
Statement of who within OSF would guide the work	<p>The Justice Initiative DR team will guide the work: Laura Bingham, Legal Office, Equality and Inclusion Liliana Gamboa, Program Officer, Advocacy/ Equality and Inclusion Julia Harrington Reddy, Senior Legal Office for Equality and Citizenship Cassandre Theano, Associate Legal Officer</p>

Allocator (See list on Reserve Funds KARL)	Name	Pierre Mirabaud
	Date Approved	08/21/2015
Allocator Notes / Comments (To be completed by <u>allocator only</u>)	(Notes/Comments - Optional field)	
	<p>(Criteria checklist)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is this an <u>unforeseen</u> opportunity or a genuinely new idea to advance core open society commitments?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is the need time-sensitive?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are we proposing to do something that others are not doing?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is the plan compelling?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does the planned activity take good advantage of OSF capacity?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is the team leading the work up to the task?</p>	

Urgency level for grant approval & payments	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Rapid Response	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rapid Response <i>(See procedure on KARL)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>This proposal does not involve any grants, but a consultancy which must be processed rapidly.</i>
If approved, where to allocate the budget? <i>(If the budget is split between multiple programs, please copy/paste this section as needed.)</i>	Amount	\$200,000
	Category of Work	CJI 020
	Division/Program Code	19011.015
	Entity <i>(i.e., FPOS, ZUG)</i>	FPOS
	Fund Class <i>(i.e., Lobbying/Non-Lobbying)</i>	Non-Lobbying
	Geography <i>(of benefit)</i>	Dominican Republic